RESOLUTION (1-2013)

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL FOR THE CITY OF FAIRVIEW TO OPPOSE THE TRANSPORT OF COAL THORUGH FAIRVIEW, OREGON.

WHEREAS, there are currently proposals for projects that would result in transport of coal trains through Fairview; and

WHEREAS, according to findings from the Environmental Protection agency and research in other communities, coal trains are likely to cause significant negative effects on Fairview's public health, economy, and air and water quality; and

WHEREAS, these mile and a half long trains which typically carry 100 tons of coal can lose up to 3% of their load in transit in coal dust; and

WHEREAS, this coal dust will have a negative impact on local businesses, homes and natural areas; and

WHEREAS, coal dust contains toxic heavy metals including mercury, arsenic, and lead, all known to have serious adverse health effects, especially on children. These heavy metals are linked to increases in cancer, bronchitis, emphysema, black lung disease and birth defects; and

WHEREAS, derailment is more likely in coal trains than in other trains and because many homes and businesses are in such close proximity to the rail alignment, a coal train derailment could result in significant property damage to residents or business owners in Fairview.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FAIRVIEW AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1.	While the City strongly supports the use of rail for freight; the City
	Council finds that coal trains through Fairview will have adverse social,
	economic, and environmental consequences for Fairview.

- Section 2. Allowing trains transporting coal to pass through Fairview is not compatible with the environmental future desired by our citizens.
- Section 3. All applicable federal, state, and local laws protecting public health, safety, and air and water quality should be enforced to protect the citizens of Fairview and the state of Oregon from the adverse effects of coal trains.
- Section 4. The City fully supports Governor John Kitzhaber's request that a federal agency prepare a programmatic and comprehensive environmental impact statement (EIS) under the National Environmental Policy Act to look at the unprecedented number of coal export proposals pending in the Pacific Northwest, as well as the potential effects in this country of the use of coal in Asia. Now is the time for a programmatic EIS, before substantial and irreversible commitments of resources are made.

Section 5.

The City of Fairview joins the call for review of comprehensive independent Health Impact Assessment before any permits are approved for any proposed coal export project.

Section 6.

This resolution shall be sent to Governor Kitzhaber, Senators Wyden and Merkley, Congressman Blumenauer, Secretary of the Interior Salazar, Secretary of the Army McHugh, General Temple of the US Army Corp of Engineers, Director of Abbey of the Bureau of Land Management, our local state legislative delegation; in addition the City shall lobby on its behalf where appropriate.

Section 7.

This Resolution is and shall be effective from and after its passage by the Council.

Resolution adopted by the City Council of the City of Fairview, this 2nd day of January, 2013.

Mayor, City of Fairview Mike Weatherby

Date of Signing

ATTEST:

Recorder, City of Fairview

Samantha D. Nelson